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# The Tech

MIT  
Cambridge  
Massachusetts

Friday, January 21, 1977

## in the news

### INSIDE

Institute guidelines on privacy may not adhere closely to those laid down in the 1974 "Buckley Amendment," which could bear improvement by the "new" Institute Committee on Privacy.

p2

James McKenzie, a member of the Union of Concerned Scientists, spoke on the drawbacks of nuclear energy use and development at a forum on nuclear issues Tuesday. Three graduate students defended the economics and safety of nuclear energy.

p3

Yet another sport has come to MIT: bathtub racing. Roger Silverstein reports on a group of Tech students who plan to enter "The World Series of Bathtub Racing."

p7

The varsity track team chalked up its fourth straight victory Saturday to keep its perfect record intact. Hockey, wrestling, men's and women's basketball, and men's and women's fencing teams also saw action last week.

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### OUTSIDE

The Lecture Series Committee's scheduled movie for Wednesday evening, *Silent Running*, had to be cancelled after Film Transport, the company responsible for shipping films to LSC failed to deliver the movie. "We're very upset about it," commented an LSC spokesman, but he added that the movie will be shown on Mon., Jan. 31, in 26-100 at 7 and 9:30 pm.

Students attending Jerome Weisner's and Paul Gray's IAP party lightly protested the recent tuition raise. One student loudly censured attending students for eating MIT's cookies while simultaneously griping about tuition rises. After this outburst, approximately 20 students chanted "4350: too damn much!", competing with the band present for the party. The chanting quickly died without incident.

Hillel defeated Random by over 100 points to win the MIT College Bowl last night. Team members were Bob Schloss '78, captain, Ernie Davis '78, Jeremy Nussbaum '77, and Michael Stifel G.

## Tuition jumps to \$4,350 next year

By Mitchell Trachtenberg

Tuition for the 1977-78 academic year has been set at \$4,350, an increase of \$350 from the current level.

The 8.75 per cent increase, the eighth rise in as many years, was officially announced in this week's *Tech Talk*. The increase is in the same range as expected at the Ivy League colleges, schools with which MIT competes for students.

MIT has raised its tuition by \$350 only twice before in recent history, after the 1969-70 and 1974-75 academic years. These increases brought the charge to \$2500 and \$3700, respectively.

Director of Admissions Peter

H. Richardson '48 cited inflation as the major reason for the tuition increase. Richardson asserted that, "I'm appalled at what it costs me to buy dinner at a big restaurant and I'm appalled by what it costs to go to MIT... but the real [inflation adjusted] cost of MIT has not been changing a great deal."

Richardson went on to note that "there is nothing in any analysis that we have done that suggests that the tuition increase will make any difference to the Admissions Office."

Richardson lamented the difficulty of finding scholarship funds. "Finding ways to support students is not easy. [If I were a

donor] I'd much rather have a boathouse built than give a scholarship."

The 1977-78 equity level, that amount of a student's need which must be provided for by loans and employment before the Institute will grant scholarship aid, will not be announced for about five weeks, according to Jack Frailey '44, Director of Student Financial Aid. Both Frailey and Richardson cited estimates of \$200 to \$400 as reasonable guesses of the range within which the equity level increase will fall.

The current equity level, or self-help level, is \$2,300. "This is a higher level of self-help than at any other schools with which we

compete," said Frailey, adding that the current equity level here is \$200 greater than the next highest, at Yale and Princeton.

Despite this high level, the fraction of students who accept MIT's offer of admission is entirely independent of their need for financial aid, according to Financial Aid Office studies. Frailey also estimates, however, that of those students leaving MIT voluntarily, roughly one fourth to one third cite financial reasons.

Student reaction to the tuition announcement has been, not surprisingly, unfavorable. Dormitory Council Chairman Roger Powell fears "MIT may become a rich man-poor man school, with students from middle income families being squeezed out because they don't qualify for financial aid and because their parents can't meet the ever-burgeoning costs of the Institute."

Interfraternity Conference (IFC) Chairman Richard Maebius is worried that the "continual increase in tuition will eventually take its toll on the freshmen. People are going to start wondering whether or not the tuition is justifiable, in view of what they can get elsewhere."

Neither Richardson nor Frailey, on the other hand, is worried about the tuition rise affecting the quality of future classes. They are both convinced that the crucial criterion in attracting first-rate students is the type of education that MIT offers, not the price which it charges.

Says Richardson: "The important thing for Admissions is how people perceive the MIT education. A few hundred dollars won't hurt us if people recognize that they will be getting a superior education here." Concludes Frailey: "The magnet attracts much more strongly than it repels. Students want to come to MIT for what it can give them and the price will not keep them away."

(Please turn to page 3)

## Council defeats DNA ban

By Mark James

Cambridge Mayor Alfred Vellucci's attempt to ban recombinant DNA research in Cambridge failed Monday by a 3-to-4 City Council vote.

A public hearing on an ordinance sponsored by Councilor David Clem that would adopt the recommendations of the Cambridge Laboratory Experimentation Review Board (CLERB) will be held this evening at 6 pm.

The CLERB has recommended that recombinant research classified as requiring P3 conditions by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) be allowed in Cambridge if the researchers satisfy NIH guidelines and special rules proposed by the CLERB.

Associate Professor of Biology Philip Sharp has said that he could begin to do P3 research soon after receiving Cambridge approval. Recombinant DNA research involves the linkage of genes from different organisms and the insertion of the resulting molecule into a bacterium.

Vellucci's ordinance would have prohibited P3 and P4 classes of research and levy a \$1,000 per day fine for violations.

Clem said that he believed that his ordinance would receive "at least six votes, and probably seven votes" out of nine total votes on the City Council.

Several City Councilors contacted by *The Tech* said that they had not reached a final decision on Clem's ordinance. Councilor Francis Duehay said that he was "inclined to vote for it," but that he was not certain that a special Cambridge Biohazards Commit-

tee was necessary because a Health Policy Board is already in existence and could supervise the research.

Clem said that he scheduled the hearing for Friday so that the Council could possibly act on the ordinance on Monday.

Councilor Thomas Danehy said that he was "not entirely happy with the way [Clem] is handling" the ordinance. Danehy

said that he saw no reason for "ramrodding" the ordinance through the Council, and predicted that Clem might have difficulty gaining quick approval for the law.

P3 and P4 research is prohibited by a "good-faith" moratorium which was enacted by the Council last July and extended for 30 days on Jan. 5.

(Please turn to page 3)

## Dorm security problem for all

By Daniel Nathan

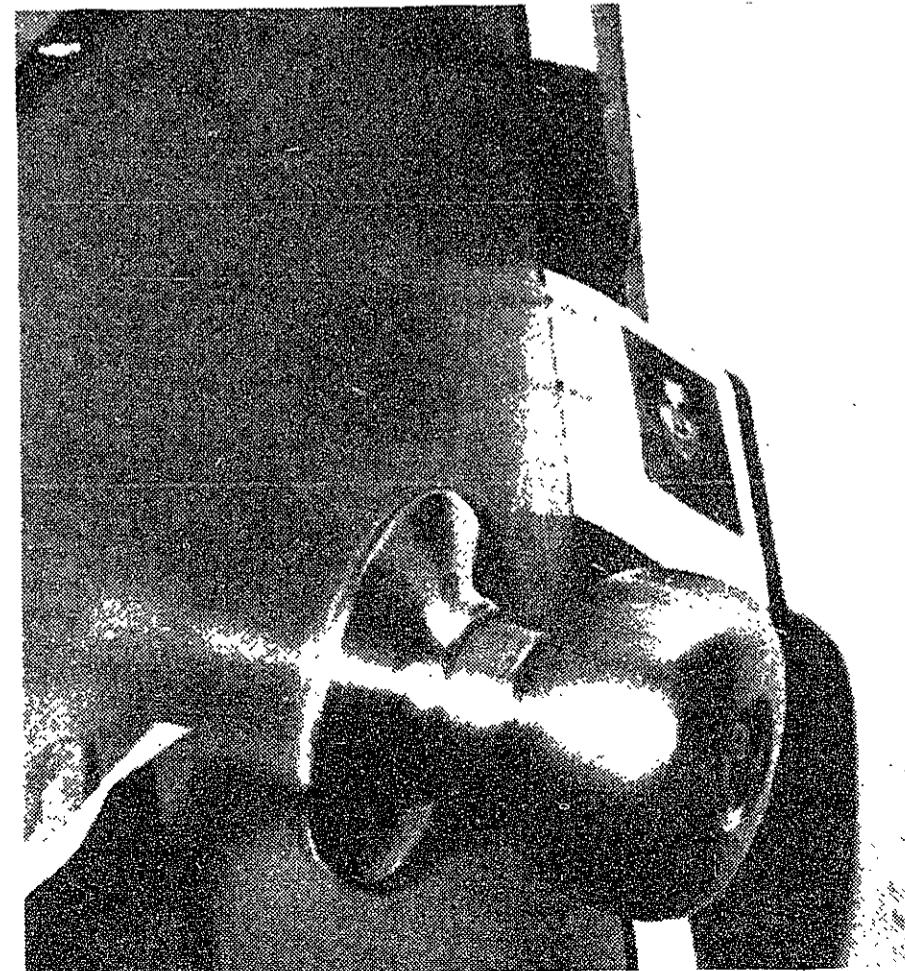
Dormitory residents are becoming more aware of the problems of thefts, vandalism, and urchins, and dormitory governments have succeeded in finding some solutions to the problems, as indicated by increased security in the dormitories.

Typical safety problems of urban college campuses are accentuated at MIT because of the school's proximity to a high crime area of Cambridge. In addition, MIT lacks an enclosed residential area; each dorm is easily accessible from a street.

The simplest method of keeping intruders out of a dormitory is to lock the doors. According to Burton House president Warren Loui '78, until the Burton doors were locked two years ago there were many incidents of room theft, including a break-in at the senior tutor's suite. Since then there have been "none to speak of."

Guests are not allowed past the desk of McCormick Hall between

(Please turn to page 3)



Although room doors in Burton House are easy to open without a key, the locked front door appears to have prevented theft.

# Are Institute privacy guidelines inadequate?

By David B. Koretz

More than two years after the adoption of the widely acclaimed "Buckley Amendment," which set down broad guidelines for student access to academic records, the issue of privacy at MIT is still very much undecided.

The 1974 regulations assert the rights of students at "postsecondary educational" institutions to "inspect and review education records," the right "to a response from the educational agency to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of the records," and the right to "request that the educational agency or institution which maintains the records amend them."

However, the protection accorded the student under these laws is limited. The act, under the aegis of HEW, allows free disclosure of academic records to "other school officials, including teachers... to officials of another school or school system," to "parents of a dependent student," and to various federal, state, and local "officials or authorities."

Academic records of MIT students are available to a fairly wide range of people and groups, including faculty members, advisors, housemasters, and graduate residents (tutors). Also having access to these records are the Committee on Academic Performance, the Freshman Advisory Council, and statistical analysis groups.

Professor Arthur C. Smith, head of the Institute Committee on Privacy, asserted that "it is generally appropriate that they have access. They function as agents of MIT, and it is assumed that they will act responsibly."

Smith told *The Tech* that he feels "they should keep some kind of record of who has access to individual records."

The Buckley Amendment states that "an educational agency or institution shall for each request and for each disclosure of personally identifiable information from the education records of a student, maintain a record kept with the education records of the student which indicates... the parties who have requested or obtained personally identifiable information from the education records of the student, and the legitimate interests these parties had in requesting or obtaining the information."

MIT does not necessarily follow these guidelines precisely, according to Smith, who, commenting on the records of access, said, "I'm not sure how well it is implemented." Furthermore, Smith pointed out, "a formal request is needed to find out [records of disclosures]."

The federal regulations also provide that "the party to whom the information is disclosed will not disclose the information to any other party without the prior written consent" of the student.

Smith admitted that there is a "relatively free exchange of information in the Institute, usually for those who need to know." He

also noted that grades are commonly sent to "graduate admissions chairmen, presumably because they have some reason to know." These records, Smith said, "are of those who are apply-

stute requires a "written request" from the student, although the federal statute only provides for "a reasonable attempt to notify" the student.

Smith did admit that "the flow

**"there is a 'relatively free exchange of information in the Institute'"**

ing or who might be applying to graduate school [in that department]."

Regarding transfer of academic records to outside institutions, MIT boasts tougher restrictions than the law demands. The In-

stitute Committee on Privacy is a large and poorly understood system," but he added that the Committee "is in the process of trying to formulate and recommend guidelines."

The Institute Committee on

Privacy, which has been headed by Smith for about three years, has never published a single document. According to Thomas S. Birney '76, a graduate student in mechanical engineering and a member of the Committee, the last statement on privacy released at MIT was the *Final Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Privacy of Information at MIT*, published May 19, 1971.

This largely inconsequential document was the culmination of a three-year study by an *ad hoc* committee formed by MIT president Howard Johnson and chaired by Professor Eugene B. Skolnikoff. The *ad hoc* committee observed that "privacy is of par-

ticular significance at MIT... Privacy is a personal matter which depends on cultural background, experience and other factors," and "privacy has a price not only in direct expense but in the sacrifice at times of operational efficiency and personal convenience."

Despite this bureaucratic attitude, the *ad hoc* committee presented recommendations in the *Report* that foreshadowed the progressive measures of the Buckley Amendment. Perhaps the report of the new Committee on Privacy, if there is ever to be a report, will make further advances toward widespread respect of student privacy at MIT.

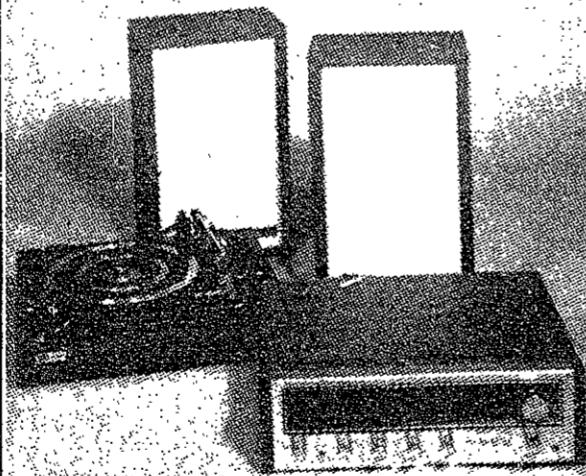
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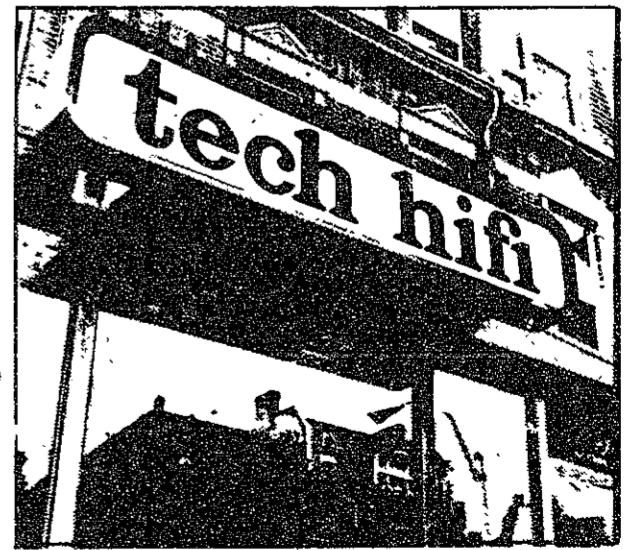
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# DNA research may be allowed, regulated

(Continued from page 1)

Clem said that he would like to see the ordinance enacted before the moratorium expires so as to not unduly delay researchers.

The Council passed a series of seven orders sponsored by Clem and Councilor Barbara Acker-

mann, which are summarized below:

- The City Solicitor shall prepare a memorandum listing the advantages and disadvantages of regulating recombinant DNA research.
- The City Council thanks the

researchers involved for their patience during the moratorium.

- The City Solicitor shall draft the ordinance recommended by the CLERB to regulate this research (this was already completed).

- Harvard and MIT shall file a

written response to the Council stating how they plan to comply with the CLERB guidelines on monitoring of the release of organisms from the lab, stating their timetables for beginning research.

- The City Manager shall petition the NIH to seek funding for the regulatory procedures implemented by Cambridge.

• The City Manager shall report on any state and federal investigations into recombinant research, and list all P3 and P4 laboratories in the United States.

- The City Manager shall prepare a report on the implementation of the CLERB recommendation for setting up a Cambridge Biohazards Committee to oversee compliance with the CLERB guidelines.

## Dorms locked to slow thieves

(Continued from page 1)

8am and 1am unless they are on the guest list, and McCormick residents must meet guests at the door at other times in order for them to pass by the night watchman. This expensive but almost perfect solution to the problem of dormitory intrusions had a perfect record last semester which ended with the theft of money from two women last Sunday, and Monday night's false fire alarm.

Although East Campus has a "potentially greater problem with the community," according to Roger Powell '77, East Campus acting president, the dormitory boasts a security record comparable to those of McCormick and Burton, although their entry doors are never locked. East Campus's structure makes it difficult for thieves because there are long lines of sight in the corridors, according to Powell.

Another aid to East Campus's security is the residents' policy of "hassling" any "urchins," said Powell. Baker House has a similar "self-police" system, according to Norm Smith '77, Baker House president. Residents at Baker are always present in the front lounges, and the dormitory also use a two-bell urchin alarm

system. Although Baker's front door is always open, there are "no problems, really," according to Smith.

The unoccupied ground floor of Burton proved vulnerable last term, despite Burton's 24-bell urchin alert. Pinball machines and washing machines were broken into, and an attempt was made to rob the Coke machines.

Perhaps the most significant

sign of increased dormitory security this year is the absence of thefts at Bexley Hall, traditionally the first to fall to urchins. New entry doors and increased watchfulness on the part of residents are the main reasons, according to Jude Shavlik '79.

As Loui said, "People are aware that we have a problem, and that's a step in the right direction."

## Nuclear power use debated

By Stephen Besen

"Nuclear power causes too many problems. There are better ways to meet our energy needs through the rest of this century," according to James McKenzie, a scientist for the National Audubon Society, who spoke at an open forum on nuclear issues Tuesday.

McKenzie, a member of the Union of Concerned Scientists, debated the merits of nuclear energy with a panel of graduate students at a forum sponsored by the nuclear engineering department.

McKenzie stated that nuclear energy could be unsafe as well as uneconomical. "Without operation subsidies, nuclear power couldn't make it," he claimed. Andy Cook G opposed his state-

ment, saying that nuclear power was indeed economical in the Northeast.

McKenzie also warned of the impending shortage of uranium if the United States continues its present rate of use. He stated that "utilities will be importing up to 100 per cent of their uranium in the next decade." McKenzie saw other problems with the increasing use of nuclear power such as transportation and disposal of low level nuclear wastes and protection of nuclear plants against terrorism.

Don Dube G stated that the reasons for the nuclear energy controversy stemmed from "lack of information to the public, misinformation, and suppression of information." He added that people fear the unknowns of nuclear

power, such as radiation.

Dube, Cook, and Mark Gottleib G all agreed that nuclear power was safe and economical and they supported its further development. McKenzie favored putting more money into energy conservation to "make better use of what we have." Cook stated that nuclear power is "not ideal but attractive compared to the alternatives."

## Police Blotter

(The Police Blotter is a report written by the Campus Patrol on crimes, incidents, and actions on the MIT campus each week.)

### "Jump Starting"

The recent severe cold has caused many automobile batteries to "die," necessitating "jumping starting" weak batteries via booster cables from strong batteries. Although perhaps convenient, this nevertheless is an extremely hazardous procedure, involving a substantial degree of

risk of battery explosion. To minimize this risk, it is suggested that the proper procedure, as outlined below, be followed.

1. Start the engine of the car giving the boost.
2. Remove all cell caps from both batteries.
3. Connect one cable to the positive post of the good battery and to the positive post of the weak battery.
4. Connect one end of the second cable to the negative post of the good battery; connect the
- other end of the cable to the frame of the car needing the boost — do NOT connect it to the negative pole of the weak battery.
5. Stand clear of both engines.
6. Now attempt to start the car needing the boost.
7. Once the second car is started, disconnect the cables promptly.
8. Do not try to drive off right away. Instead, the car with the weakened battery should be run at a fast idle until the engine is fully warmed up; this will take several minutes at the least. Vehicles requiring boosts in order to start should be checked promptly by a qualified mechanic.

### Court Conviction

A defendant apprehended by MIT officers last winter and charged with assault and battery for severely beating an MIT undergraduate pleaded guilty to the offense in Middlesex Superior Court on Wednesday. He was sentenced to two years in the House of Correction by the presiding judge; the sentence was then suspended. The defendant was placed on two years probation.

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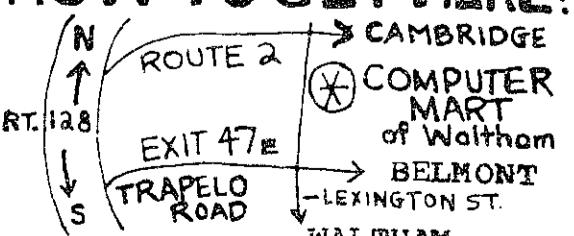
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# opinion

## Do current world affairs mean anything to you?

By Glenn Brownstein

Have you ever noticed the near-lack of intellectual discussion on the MIT campus, particularly among undergraduates and in the field of current affairs? Who is Zbigniew Brzezinski? More importantly, who really cares?

I'm not implying that all of you out there are dummies, but simply that a majority of you don't give a damn as to what is going on around you. How many of you read a daily newspaper or weekly newsmagazine on a regular basis? Assuming that few have access to a TV set, the answer to the above question should accurately determine what our news diet consists of and, based on my experience in the last year, I'd venture that over half, probably more than that, of the undergraduates here don't follow the news closely or even distantly.

On a world or national level, it's admittedly difficult to keep up with all the goings-on, and the combination of the MIT academic burden and the complexity of that type of issue may be a partial cause of our collective ignorance. But on the local level, very few people I know are aware of anything at all. Try a simple test: ask 10 people 1) Who is Boston's Police Commissioner?; 2) Who is Cambridge's Mayor and City Manager?; 3) Name any four members of either the Boston or Cambridge City Council. If more than one asked can answer all the questions, you've got an unusual sample. More likely, at least one or two of your acquaintances will mutter "Who cares?" or something equally appropriate.

The point is that they don't care what happens here, whether they think they live here or not. Students fought for a number of years to get reasonably obtainable voting rights in Cambridge — some of us feel we live here as well as go to school. People around here gripe that the sidewalks haven't been cleaned off and that streets are still clogged with snow, but don't realize that Cambridge is out of snow removal money for this winter owing to the incredibly heavy fall in the last month. If you don't care enough to find out why, don't complain.

How ignorant are we? Late last spring, when the busing controversy threatened to explode into open warfare, I ran a column briefly retracting the grounds for the conflict and recounting the events of the past two weeks, nothing much more than a rehash. People here at *The Tech* complained that it was too historical and not analytic enough; people outside told me that the column provided a badly-needed refresher on what was happening in Boston schools; a select few said that such "stuff didn't belong in *The Tech*."

At any rate, the peace march that Friday, from the Common to Government Center was deemed important enough at Northeastern and BU to close school or rearrange schedules, while MIT is in Cambridge and undoubtedly more removed from the conflict — I don't know anyone here who participated in the march.

I think one major problem is that a sizable number of us were weaned on the *New York Times*. So when we realize that the *Globe* is not an exact replication of it, we say, "Well, it's such a lousy paper, why bother with it?" Wrong. The *Globe* is not meant to be a copy of the *Times*; no other paper in the world is. But as a purveyor of local news, the *Globe* is a very good paper. Get your world and national news from the *Times*, if you want, but if you want news of the Boston area, if you care about busing, crime in the streets, why the snow isn't cleared off the streets yet, read the *Globe* or the *Herald*. If investigative reporting is your preference, pick up the *Phoenix (Boston After Dark)* or the *Real Paper (Free Paper)*. To dismiss all information about where you spend four or more years of your life simply because the local papers don't measure up to the *Times* indicates that you'll have to live without all but TV or newsworthy news for the rest of your life unless you settle in New York City.

For those of you who stay informed, here's a recent poll that may be interesting. What would you consider the top 10 news stories of 1976? The Indianapolis News set out to answer that question, and asked its editors and readers to submit lists. The editors' top 10 choices: (1) Presidential campaign and election. (2) Revelations of illegal acts by the CIA and FBI. (3) Changeover in the Chinese government. (4) Southern Africa conflicts. (5) Earthquake disasters worldwide. (6) Chowchilla, Calif., school bus kidnapping. (7) Washington sex scandals. (8) Legionnaires' disease. (9) Civil war in Lebanon. (10) Two US soldiers killed in Korean demilitarized zone.

Now, the readers' choices: (1) Presidential campaign and election. (2) Patty Hearst trial. (3) Washington sex scandals. (4) Legionnaires' disease. (5) Bicentennial celebrations. (6) Swine flu. (7) Chowchilla school bus kidnapping. (8) Howard Hughes' death. (9) Karen Ann Quinlan court decision. (10) Unmanned landing on Mars.

What is so interesting about these lists is that the readers' version tends to be sensationalistic and the editors' more historically relevant — at a time in which newspapers are often accused of sensationalism and not enough coverage of broad world issues. This sort of survey (taken from the *Wall Street Journal*, 1/5/77) simply indicates that whatever newspapers' faults are, sensationalism isn't one of them — most readers want more sordid, morbid news than the papers presently give out.

## the real world



## Arms ban key to small gov't

By Elaine Douglass

Judging from the Congressional reaction to Gerald Ford's State of the Union Address, the military business is going to be good for the foreseeable future. The longest, indeed the only, sustained applause came when the former President called for increased military spending to meet the Soviet threat. And, significantly, the response was weak when Ford praised his Administration for having reached with the Soviets the Vladivostok accords setting limits on nuclear weapons.

Earlier in the week Henry Kissinger, who has become a nuclear arms control advocate in his later years, earnestly sought to get across the message that "nuclear supremacy", when casualties will be in the tens of millions, has practically no operational significance." What he meant, I believe, was that America has enough nuclear weapons to deter the Soviets. This is a time for restraint and a full exploration of alternatives to another futile and costly go around the arms race spiral. But Kissinger's voice was drowned in the rising jingoist crescendo — from Phyllis Schlafly to the newly-formed Committee on the Present Danger to the CIA — warning of the "trend to Soviet supremacy."

America is recovering from the Vietnam War. *The New York Times* took note of that the other day. Cyrus Vance said "it was a mistake to intervene in Vietnam," and to see that on page 1, said *The Times* feelingly, was "something momentous, something cleansing, something final." But if America was cleansed of something, it was not cleansed of the desire to engage in weapons competition with the Soviets.

Gerald Ford, to return to him, claims to be a small-government man. He "basically" believes, according to *The Times*, that "the government that is big enough to give you everything you need is big enough to take away everything you have." And Ford is a small-government man when it comes to social welfare legislation. In his current budget Ford, for example, championed the freedom of children to remain underfed by cutting child nutrition allowances. And he has long been

an advocate of the freedom of workers to remain unemployed. Gerald Ford also favors small government for Congress, whose operating budget is shamefully large, he complained in his State of the Union address.

But Ford's commitment to small government evaporates when it comes to the military. Military spending, now one-fourth of the federal budget, must rise and there is no end in sight. The defense effort is to "continue over the long-term."

Though Gerald Ford is the outgoing President, it would be a mistake to think his policies have been repudiated. He was, after all, defeated by only a narrow margin. Congress seems to agree with his positions on defense and the administration of foreign policy, and the public disengagement with domestic government

### "nuclear defense itself presents a threat"

programs is widespread. But what neither Gerald Ford, nor most of those who agree with him seem to realize is that by failing to support arms control, they make inevitable a continued growth in the very state apparatus they claim to deplore.

Congress, Ford admonished, should "re-examine" its recent tendency to exert more control in "international affairs. In these times," he continued, "crises cannot be managed and wars cannot be waged by committee." In point of fact, foreign policy can be handled democratically, so what Ford clearly had in mind was that nuclear war and nuclear crises cannot be handled democratically.

Thus we arrive at one of the root causes of the enormous postwar growth in the power of the Presidency and the Executive Branch — nuclear weapons. Before nuclear weapons, it was possible to deliberate about going to war; but a nuclear war would be concluded in a few hours. Before nuclear weapons, it was possible to demobilize after a war; but nuclear defense requires the maintenance of huge and

dangerous forces in being. And with nuclear weapons, the authoritarian state apparatus typically associated with warmaking becomes a permanent feature of national life.

Nuclear weapons are the centerpiece around which is arranged the national security establishment — the Defense and State Departments, the CIA, FBI and defense intelligence, and the President and his staff. This is the happy-go-lucky group which brought you the war in Vietnam, opens your mail, bugs your telephones, undermines legitimately elected governments abroad, plans the assassination of foreign leaders, installs agents in the press corps, and spies on the private lives of political leaders, not to mention spending untold billions of your dollars on weapons of mass destruction. It is not my idea of small government.

Nuclear security depends on secrecy. To possess the secrets upon which the lives of millions of people presumably depend confers enormous power and prestige. This reality has not been lost on the non-military sectors of the security community, notably the intelligence agencies, which for 30 years have fought to make sure they too had a role in fighting the communist threat. Thus a whole range of bureaucracies have been able to cash in on the glamor of being responsible for "national security," and have been able to draw around themselves the cloak of secrecy behind which it is possible to operate with near impunity.

Those who believe the communist nations do present a threat to our way of life might also ponder the notion that the very nuclear defense we have erected itself presents a threat. Sustained by the exigencies of nuclear power, a national security establishment persists which is fundamentally inimical to American democratic institutions.

Is there another way to run America? Genuine arms control would go a distance toward cutting back the justification for the unprecedented prerogatives which have been usurped by the national security establishment.

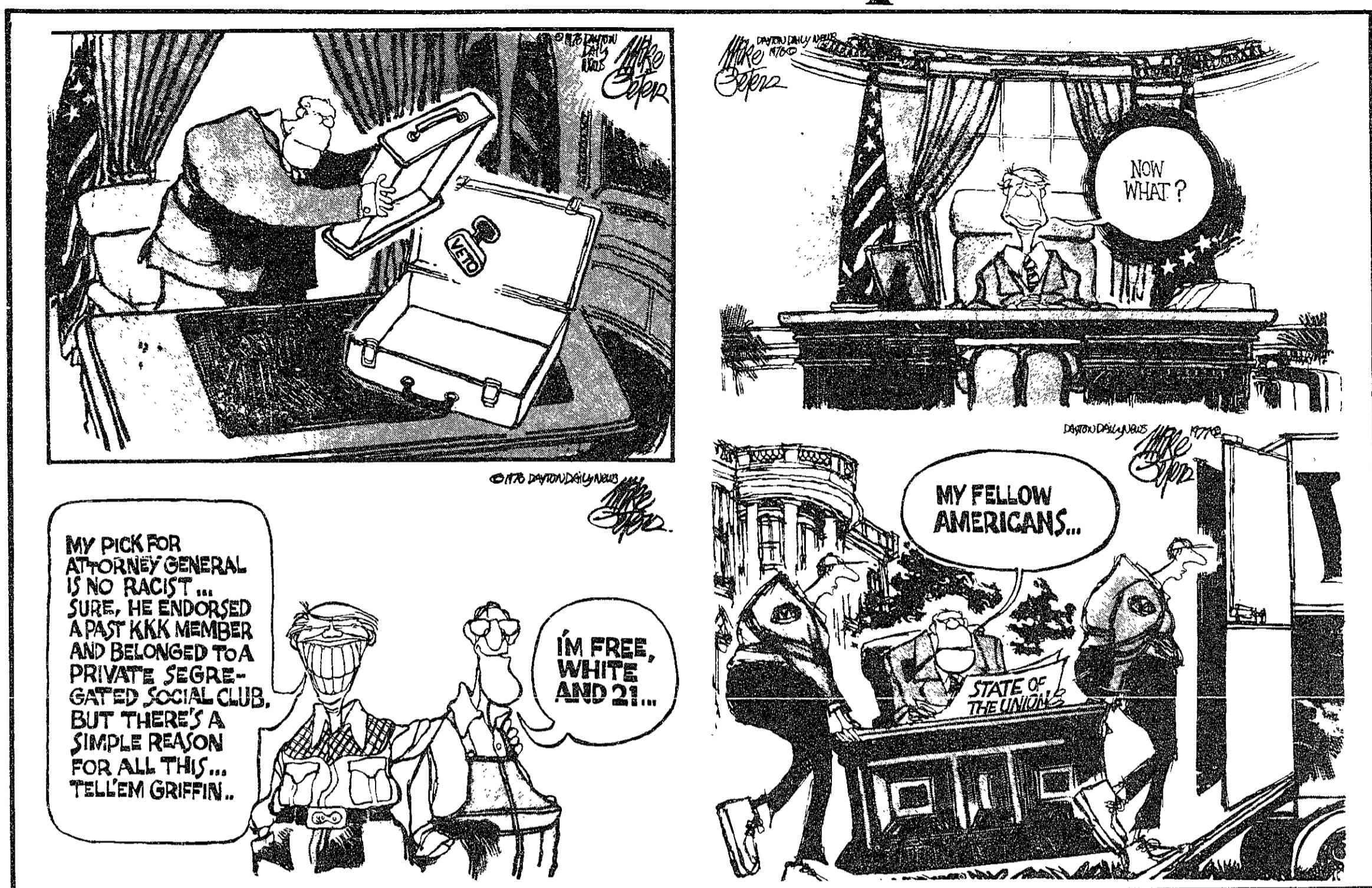
Elaine Douglass is a graduate student in political science.

## The Tech

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Rebecca L. Waring '79 — Managing Editor  
John M. Sallay '77 — Business Manager  
Mark J. Munkacsy '78 — Executive Editor  
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# opinion cont.



## Both sides of the record

To the Editor:

It is a source of child-like wonder to us that a critic perceptive enough to pan the likes of Reddy Teddy could ignore the dynamic free-form expressionism of Patti Smith.

His touting of Sparks, a band whose banality of content is exceeded only by their complete ineptitude in basic musical skills, reveals a critical sensibility of a sort unknown to this planet since the recession of the Polar Ice Cap. Spark's high school brand of childishness was in complete contrast to Patti Smith's creative intelligence and electricity, a fact obvious to most everyone in the hall, excepting your critic, who seems to have exhausted his supply of (undeserved) superlatives on Sparks, leaving him fussy and bothered after 11 o'clock. Specifically, we were impressed by the powerful audience reaction to Smith and the mass catalepsia and intermittent shouts of "boring" that greeted Spark's "refreshing" and "unquestionably successful" parade.

Anyone whose ears, head, and heart are functioning on even the most primary level would not question that Patti Smith and her work will be recognized long after Sparks, this week's review, and Mr. Perry's sour face are forgotten.

Richard Dean  
Anthony Rodrigues  
December 7, 1976

Though I appreciate your thoughtful commentary, I am still of the opinion that Patti Smith's performance of December 4th was an exercise in ineptitude. Miss Smith is obviously out of her element as a rock and roll performer. The "dynamic free-form expressionism" you write of can be found in her poetry. A great number of her poems are quite expressive and dynamic. However, her poor singing voice and unbearably loud back-up band detract a great deal from her power as a poet.

I also find it hard to believe

that someone who seems to appreciate Patti Smith's few merits could perceive so inaccurately Sparks' performance. Superficially Sparks are banal and childish; however, their ear for satire and sense of humor make one realize that there's more to their performance than meets the ear. Perhaps this is more obvious in their recorded work than in live performance.

I might add that my sample of the "powerful audience reaction" to Miss Smith's part of the even-

ing consisted of two people behind me who laughed derisively through her entire performance.

In conclusion, you state that Patti Smith's artistry "will be recognized long after Sparks, this week's review, and Mr. [sic] Perry's sour face are forgotten." I agree with you on this point. Good things shrivel in memory quickly. I will remember Patti Smith forever.

Claudia Perry

(Editor's note: Claudia Perry is a woman.)

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## arts

William F. Buckley Jr. aboard the *Cyrano*.

## Book Review

**Buckleyship comes in**

*Airborne: A Sentimental Journey* — William F. Buckley, Jr. (MacMillan)

By Robert St. James

After his graduation from Yale in 1948, William F. Buckley, Jr., entered the public scene, where he still enjoys a great deal of renown. He has distinguished himself as a widely read columnist, the host of a weekly television program, an accomplished author, a respected spokesman for political conservatives, editor of the weekly *National Review*, and a proficient sailor.

It is this last accomplishment which is the subject of Buckley's latest book, *Airborne: A Sentimental Journey*. Chronicling Buckley's 30-day transatlantic sail during the summer of 1975, *Airborne* is certainly a welcome diversion during our current cold spell.

The tale of the month-long excursion, referred to throughout the book as The Big One (The B.O.), is related by the intermingling of Buckley's journal with excerpts of three others: those of his son Christopher, and of Danny Merritt and Van Galbraith, two longtime friends of the family.

Buckley, traveling with his son, four friends, and a crew of three, aboard his 60-foot schooner *Cyrano*, didn't escape the attention of the world media during his pleasure trip. On June 8, 1975, an article entitled "A Hawk on the Islands of Hawks" was published in the *Literaturnaya Gazeta* in Moscow. The article insinuated that Buckley was visiting the Azores (whose Portuguese name translates as "the islands of hawks") in an attempt to instigate a separatist movement on the islands. At the time it appeared that Portugal might fall under Communist control, and the article stated, "The Azores are attractive to NATO in virtue of their strategic position and their bases."

As if that suggestion weren't preposterous enough, the article further said that Buckley, "as a special correspondent to the *New York Times* and *Washington Post* newspaper tandem" had flown to the islands. Buckley later wrote in a column that he was flattered by the fact that he apparently was a cause for concern in the Soviet Union, if only in the opinion of one writer.

What was to become a ritual during the trip was begun when the first bottle of wine was consumed after leaving Miami. Buckley insisted that whoever finished a bottle of wine was to insert an anti-Communist message written on the schooner's stationery, then deposit the bottle into the ocean.

"The fantasy is that, in about six weeks, several hundred bottles will lap up on the shores of Africa and Latin America, and, opening them, the natives will say to one another, 'See? Verily, thus has the Congress of the United States reduced the CIA.'

As the subtitle *A Sentimental Journey* suggests, *Airborne* isn't only about his most

daring sea voyage. It deals with almost all of his forty years of sailing experience: he tells of the boats owned, the races competed in, the crises faced, the dreams, the disappointments, and much more.

My own sailing experience is limited to a few jaunts in a catamaran over a Vermont lake but after reading *Airborne*, I feel as though I could easily ride out a hurricane while at sea.

Buckley devotes an entire chapter to a straightforward explanation of what one needs to know in order to get around with just a copy of the current *Air Almanac* and a sextant. He also explains how to navigate using an HP-65, and is kind enough to point out a few errors in the instructions provided by Hewlett-Packard with their Navigational Package. On the subject of instruction books, he remarks that "HP needs to hire somebody from the Heath-Kit Company."

Spread throughout the book are truly remarkable pictures taken by Buckley's son Chris. The subjects of the photographs vary from scenes such as the deck of *Cyrano* in the midst of a storm, to a campsite in a volcanic crater on the island of Ponta Delgada in the Azores. They serve as a witness to the beauty of this earth, a beauty that escapes the pen of anyone, even that of William F. Buckley, Jr.

Regardless of political viewpoint, however, one must agree that Buckley, with his new book *Airborne*, is nonetheless a fascinating entertainer.

## Book Review

**Dean: a year and a world away**

*Blind Ambition* — John W. Dean III (Simon and Schuster)

By William Lasser

Perhaps the most intriguing figure of the Watergate scandal was John W. Dean III, Counsel to the President from July 27, 1970 until April 30, 1973. Young, ambitious, and brilliant, Dean rose to the top of the White House "law firm" at age 31, and became a member of the President's inner circle only two years later. His fall was as astonishing: by August, 1974, he was a prisoner in the federal penitentiary at Ft. Holabird, Md.

John Dean spent three years enjoying the trappings of Presidential power; he rode in government helicopters and limousines, attended early-morning White House strategy meetings and toured the world. Soon after, he was locked in a jail cell in Washington, then shipped under guard to the Maryland Prison. In between these two extremes of position and power, Dean went before the American people — most noticeably at the Senate Watergate hearings — and accused Richard Nixon and his *closest aides* of corruption, abuse of power, and obstruction of justice.

*Blind Ambition* is Dean's White House

**Shrew brilliant again**

By David B. Koretz

In the two and a half years during which the MIT Shakespeare Ensemble has entertained campus audiences with presentations of the Bard's most popular plays, the troupe has developed into a lively, impassioned, and excellent group of actors.

The most recent production of the Ensemble was a three-night return stand of *The Taming of the Shrew*, in preparation for a six-city East Coast tour. The set was simple, painted in colors symbolic of the Italian background of the play. Props were delightfully imaginative, almost imaginary.

Costumes designed and made by Lita Wright were excellent.

Performances ranged from merely good to inspired. I have never seen another campus theatrical group present a cast of such consistent brilliance. Best of all was Alexey Orlovsky '77 as Petruchio, the crafty husband of the shrew. Orlovsky's powerful projection as well as fine gesture and intonation would make him a superb actor on most any stage.

Two other sparkling performers were Mitchell Rothstein '77 as Tranio, the servant-turned-master, and Jonathan Ivester '77 in the role of Hortensio, a suitor for Kate's younger sister. Rothstein's airs as a finely clothed Lucentio, with his richly pantomimed facial expressions, added a great deal to the comedy of the plot. Ivester's steady acting ability and his comic scenes — especially his feigned daze after being brained with a lute — were very well received indeed.

Surprisingly outstanding was Jo Ann Kruger '77 as Katharine, the shrew. Traditionally the part has been relegated to

women of greater physical stature, but the diminutive Kruger fills the role with determined vigor. Her emotional characterization let Kate speak her personality well, instead of the usual overbearing but lackluster performances so common elsewhere.

Others who were very good were Jeff Hovis '79 as Lucentio, Kate's eventual brother-in-law; Jim Walker '78 as Baptista, the shrew's elderly father; and Stuart Picking '79 in the role of Gremio, the wizened old suitor to Baptista's younger daughter.

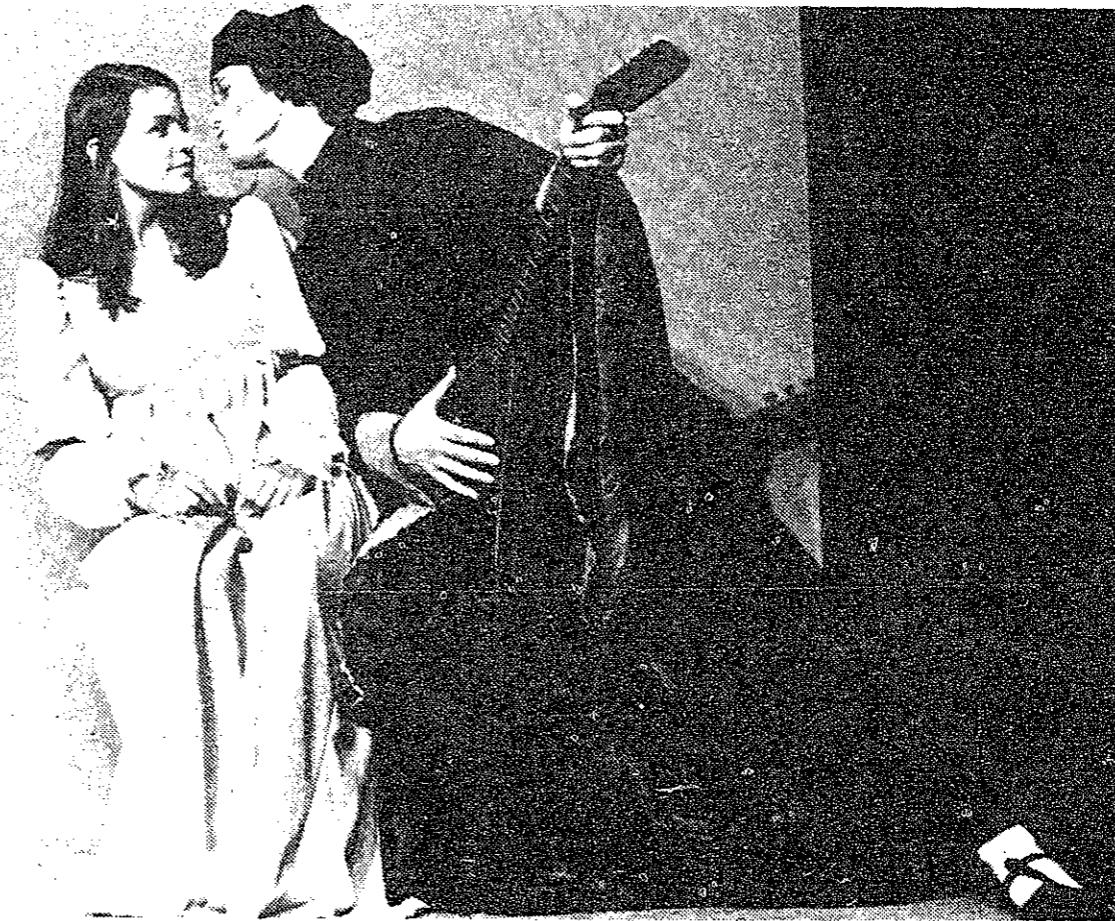
Even the actors with the lesser roles performed admirably: Astrid Howard '79 as the lovely younger sister Bianca, and Bob Hull '79, unexpectedly good in the small part of Grumio, Petruchio's personal lackey. Hull was able to play off Orlovsky's power against his own comedic talent.

One man who obviously ranks among the most talented in the troupe did not appear on stage — Professor Murray Biggs, the play's director. Biggs has instilled in his players the desire to strive for perfection.

"We are an ongoing group," Biggs explained to *The Tech*, "with an emphasis on ability. People stay a long time with us, at least two years. This helps for an improved standard of performance. We work intensely and all the time," he added.

The Shakespeare Ensemble starts its tour with *The Taming of the Shrew* at Drew University tonight, and continues on to Princeton, N.J., Philadelphia, Pa., Brooklandville, Md., Washington, D.C., and Hartford, Conn., finishing Jan. 29.

The tour is being sponsored by the MIT Alumni Association and the MIT Council for the Arts.



Ephraim Vishnac (Courtesy of Technique)

**Dean: a year and a world away**

story. As the title suggests, Dean asserts that as he climbed the ladder of White House success, he ignored the ethics, legality and morality of his actions when they interfered with his quest for power. At one point in the orchestration of the cover-up, Dean "crossed the line" of culpability and criminality, having been forced by the inertia of power and the momentum of the Presidency to break the law for his own — and the President's — purposes.

Dean is a man of great intellect. His book reads easily, his style is clear and his story exciting. As with most personal accounts of historical events, one looks in this book not for an unbiased narrative of the pertinent events — in this case Watergate — but for a clear insight into the President's sphere of power, into the minds of his most important advisors, and into the psyche of the author himself.

Dean becomes a sort of tragic figure in the decline of the Nixon presidency, if only because he had risen so far in such a short time. "Everything is different now," he writes to close the book, and how could it have been otherwise? Dean excuses his actions as he proceeds by a combination of loyalty to the President, a striving for per-

sonal glory, and a misrepresentation of his responsibilities as White House Counsel. But the real reason behind his deeds seems to be the intoxication which the power of the Chief Executive brings to a man so close to it.

There can be no denying the fact that Dean's quickness of thought, attention to details and knack for developing beneficial relationships with men of great influence could have led him to heights far above that of counsel to the president. His potential, in the absence of the scandal, is unmeasurable. But the same qualities which led him where he was — and which might have led him even higher — also drove him to the depths of helplessness.

*Blind Ambition* is one of the most honest and open books on Watergate yet published. It is at the same time one of the most disturbing. Dean's actions are such that we can understand and empathize with the difficulties he faced and with the decisions he made. His one-man stand against Richard Nixon, H.R. Haldeman and John Ehrlichman took great courage.

It is unfortunate that John Dean's rise to power came at such a dark time in our country's political history.

# Sports cont.

Roundup

## Fencing, hockey both split

By Tom Curtis

and Philip Giangarra  
Philip Giangarra is a member of the MIT table tennis team.

Steven Chan G and Avri Ben-Zeev G captured the first two places in a campus-wide open meet to determine MIT's best table tennis players.

The meet, sponsored by the MIT table tennis club, was designed to select two players for a tournament in New Haven, Conn., later this month (Chan and Ben-Zeev will represent MIT) and to choose MIT's entry in the MIT-Ivy League this season.

Besides Ben-Zeev, a first time MIT intercollegiate competitor, the squad's new players include Rich Parnas '80 and Trieu Chieu G. The team's goal this season is to regain the MIT-Ivy League championship trophy, surrendered last year to Rutgers University.

Saturday, the varsity fencing

## W fencers top SMU

By Jeannette Wing

Despite the absence of two varsity fencers, the MIT women's fencing team trounced Southwestern Massachusetts University (SMU), 13-3, at du Pont Saturday, January 15. They proved their skill by winning all but one bout in the first three rounds, behind the leadership of Jeannette Wing '78.

Wing, fencing more aggressively than last term, beat all four of her opponents in convincing victories, including the meet's deciding ninth bout. Michelle Prettyman '79, who was number one in the beginners' class of New England last year, contributed three easy wins by surprising the SMU women with varied attacks. Karen Kaufman '77, who had just started this season's practice this past week, took advantage of her height and defeated all three of her weaker opponents. Wing, Prettyman, and Kaufman each

team defeated Southwestern Massachusetts University 18-9 in the first half of a dual meet. Captain Arlie Sterling '77 paced the team, going undefeated in epee bouts.

Johns Hopkins topped MIT 16-11 despite an outstanding effort by senior Rich Reimer. Reimer captured all three of his foil bouts to lead the Engineers in victories.

In sabre, Mark Smith '78, last year's ace foilist, fenced brilliantly, posting three wins against SMU and Johns Hopkins.

The hockey club also split two games this week. Saturday, the Beavers downed Clark 7-5 on sophomore Dave Tohir's hat trick. Also scoring for MIT were Rick Bryant '79, Ken Mortensen '77, Tom Scarabeno G, and Al Strong '80. Tuesday, the Beavers were shut out by Gordon 4-0 despite good defensive play by Scarabeno and Strong.

MIT's varsity wrestling had a

enjoyed a bout victory of 5-0.

Sue Nelson '77, also fenced well winning one of her two bouts. Freshmen Julia Shimoaka and Marian Stein, substituting for Nelson and Kaufman, fenced close bouts with each one winning after bringing the bout score to *la belle* (4-4). The team is encouraged by the successful performances of both Shimoaka and Stein.

The MIT women's fencing team (3-3) faces Dartmouth College this Saturday, January 22. The next home meet is Wednesday, February 2, against URI in duPont at 7:00pm.

tough time Saturday at Coast Guard. The Engineers were topped by Coast Guard 42-8. The lone winner for MIT was Norman Hairston '79 in the 118-pound class. Werner Haag also scored for the Engineers with a draw in the 134-pound division. MIT was forced to forfeit two matches in the contest.

**Women's basketball** is still looking for their first victory after losing 56-37 to Bentley Saturday.

The MIT IAP Arm-Wrestling Tournament will be held this Sunday at 2:00pm in du Pont. All contestants must sign up by 1:45pm on Sunday to be eligible. Awards will be given for light-, middle-, and heavyweight classes. The tournament is open to the entire MIT Community.

\* \* \*

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one basketball championships will be held during the halftime of Monday's women's basketball game.

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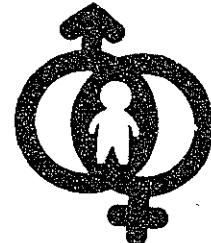
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# sports

## Beaver cagers have up and down week

By Glenn Brownstein

Why the MIT men's basketball record is 3-6 and not 5-4: in their last three games, the Beavers have played only three halves of sound basketball. Sound simple? Here are the simple facts: an 81-72 victory over Lowell University, a dismal 53-50 loss to equally dismal New Jersey Tech, and a Jekyll-Hyde 64-49 defeat by Wesleyan.

Against Lowell last Thursday, MIT appeared to have suffered no ill effects from its long Florida trip, completed just the day before. The Beavers led from the opening tap to the final buzzer in registering their third win of the season. Lowell's usually potent attack was almost completely shut off by the tenacious MIT defense, with only Walt Makiej (29 points) and Steve Oliver (17) breaking into double figures for the Chiefs.

The Beavers' scoring was much more balanced, with freshman center Ray Nagem leading the club with 21 points. Tom Berman '79 tallied 20, and guards Rick Van Etten '78 and captain Peter Maimonis '77 added 15 each. Maimonis also set a personal record in accumulating 14 assists,

just short of Al Epstein's 1974 mark of 16.

Demonstrating once and for all that an uninspired basketball team will have trouble winning regardless of the opposition, MIT dropped a 53-50 decision to a weak New Jersey Tech squad Saturday night. Although the Beavers had demolished the Engineers the year before, there were no such heroics this time.

Trailing 26-25 at halftime, MIT nonetheless played ten solid minutes at the beginning of the second half and opened up a 43-33 lead. After that, though, the gremlins took over as MIT lost its momentary edge and handed the game back to New Jersey, seemingly somewhat reluctant to take the win, but doing so anyway.

Maimonis led all scorers with 21 points, and Nagem hauled down 12 rebounds, but New Jersey's freshman center, Mike Grubbs did it all for the Engineers, scoring 18 points, and garnering ten rebounds. New Jersey outshot MIT, 33 to 31 percent, in the poorly played game.

For nearly thirty minutes Tuesday night, MIT played its best defensive game of the season in



Gordon Haft

Basketball captain Peter Maimonis '77 prepares to score one of his 21 points against New Jersey Tech. John Cavolosky '77 (21) looks on.

totally containing Wesleyan's offense enroute to a 42-29 lead. Then the roof fell in. Wesleyan ran off ten consecutive points, MIT's John Cavolosky '77 scored a three-point play, Wesleyan scored ten more, Nagem hit a layup, Wesleyan tallied seven consecutive points, Cavolosky hit a jumper, and Wesleyan converted eight free throws to wrap up the scoring. In short, a 35-7 burst that turned a 13-point lead into a 64-49 defeat.

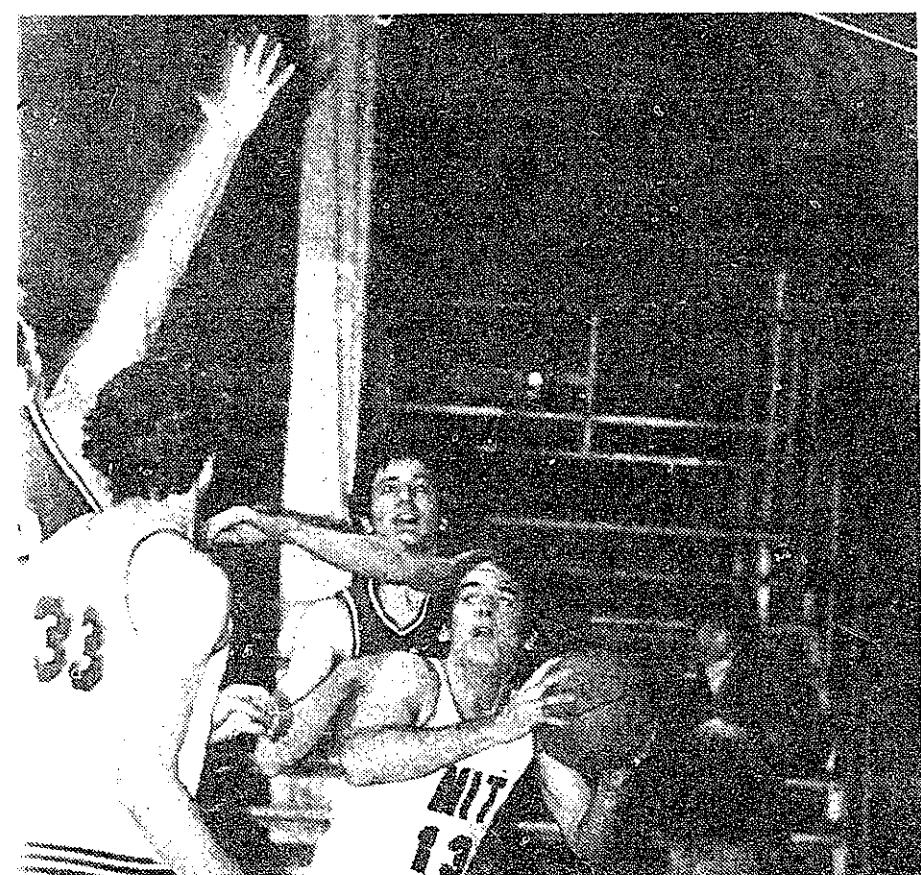
The key to the bizarre turn of

fortune for the Beavers appeared to be the foul difficulties of Nagem, who had played outstanding defense against the top Wesleyan scorer, Steve Malinowski, but had picked up his fourth personal with 13:56 left in the game and sat out six minutes during which Wesleyan outscored MIT, 11-2. Nagem returned to play for another four minutes before fouling out, but the momentum had shifted and MIT was swept up by the Cardinals as they handed the Beavers

a bitter sixth defeat.

Malinowski and Earl Phillips led Wesleyan scorers with 19 points, while Cavolosky topped the stunned MIT squad with 17 markers.

The Beavers will attempt to reverse their two-game skid tomorrow night at 8:15pm against a talented Bowdoin squad which features high-scoring guard Gregg Fasulo and strong center Jim Small. MIT then travels to Tufts to renew a traditional rivalry Monday evening.



Gordon Haft

Beaver guard Tom Berman '79 maneuvers under the backboard in the varsity basketball team's Saturday loss to New Jersey Tech.

## Six to enter tub race

By Roger Silverstein

Wheeled bathtub racing has finally arrived at MIT. Six Tech students are attempting to design a racing tub to capture the 1978 Southern Tech Bathtub Race.

It started when Guy Arnos '78 came across an article in *Road and Track* magazine describing the 1976 Bathtub Race. After some investigation, he received information from the Bathtub Racing Association and an invitation to enter the race.

The beginnings of bathtub racing are shrouded in antiquity, although the legends at Southern Tech say that it was started by fraternities who raced bathtubs laden with beer around the campus. In 1968, however, the first motorized bathtub racers appeared. From this humble beginning, the "World Series of Bathtub Racing" has grown to a major event attracting almost 8,000 spectators.

According to the race program, "All the tubs are just that, cast iron bathtubs at least four feet in length (the Edwardian style seems to be preferred). The Bathtub

Racing Association maintains strict classifications as to tub weight and chassis design." Disc brakes, rack and pinion steering, and capacitative discharge ignitions are featured on these tubs, which average 60 miles per hour on the course, and exceed 70 miles per hour on the straightaways. Originally, the bathtubs were electrically powered, but frequent short-circuiting and overheating led to the use of gasoline engines.

Currently, Arnos and his co-workers are working on basic designs for the racer. Another top priority is fund-raising, since Arnos says that it will take three to five thousand dollars to produce a competitive bathtub. The engine, tires, chassis, and other necessary items are quite expensive, although the group already has a bathtub.

In view of the high expense, a go-cart race at Purdue is also being considered, since it is cheaper and allows more freedom in terms of design. Whichever race is eventually chosen, Arnos is confident that the MIT team will have a good chance of bringing home a trophy.

## Track tramples Williams

By Dave Dobos

The MIT indoor track team opened its IAP competition with a lackluster 64-49 victory over Williams at the western Massachusetts school last Saturday. The thinclads remain undefeated at 4-0.

Although the field event men provided a substantial 24 point lead, the runners, outscored by Williams 34-25, were plagued with unexciting performances and handicapped by the absence of both co-captains, injured Joe Egan '77 and Frank Richardson '77, who was taking his veterinary boards.

There were, however, some noteworthy Beaver race victories. Sophomore Jim Dunlay, filling in for Egan, edged his Williams foe by an eyelash in the 600 yard run. Senior Rich Okine eased to his second straight double win, capturing the hurdles and the dash for a total of 10 points.

Taking five of six events, the field event competitors bulled to a 39-15 advantage. Reid von Borstel '78 shattered the MIT varsity high jump record with his leap of 6'6 1/2". The tall, lean junior, who is the defending Easterns outdoor champ, bettered the old 6'6" record set by Walt Gibbons '74 in 1971.

Freshman Kwaku Temeng,

MIT's leading scorer, took the long jump, was second in the triple jump, and picked up a third in the dash for nine points. Junior Fred Bunke captured the shot put with an impressive personal best of 47 feet after tossing the 35 lb. weight 49'3" for second in that event.

Sophomores Jason Tong and Ed Ingenito scored upsets in the triple jump and the pole vault respectively.

Fourth-year head coach Gordon Kelly was particularly happy with the field event performances, being especially pleased with von Borstel's record-breaking jump and Bunke's shot effort. He had been hoping for a more lopsided win, but acknowledged that the loss of his co-captains hurt the team.

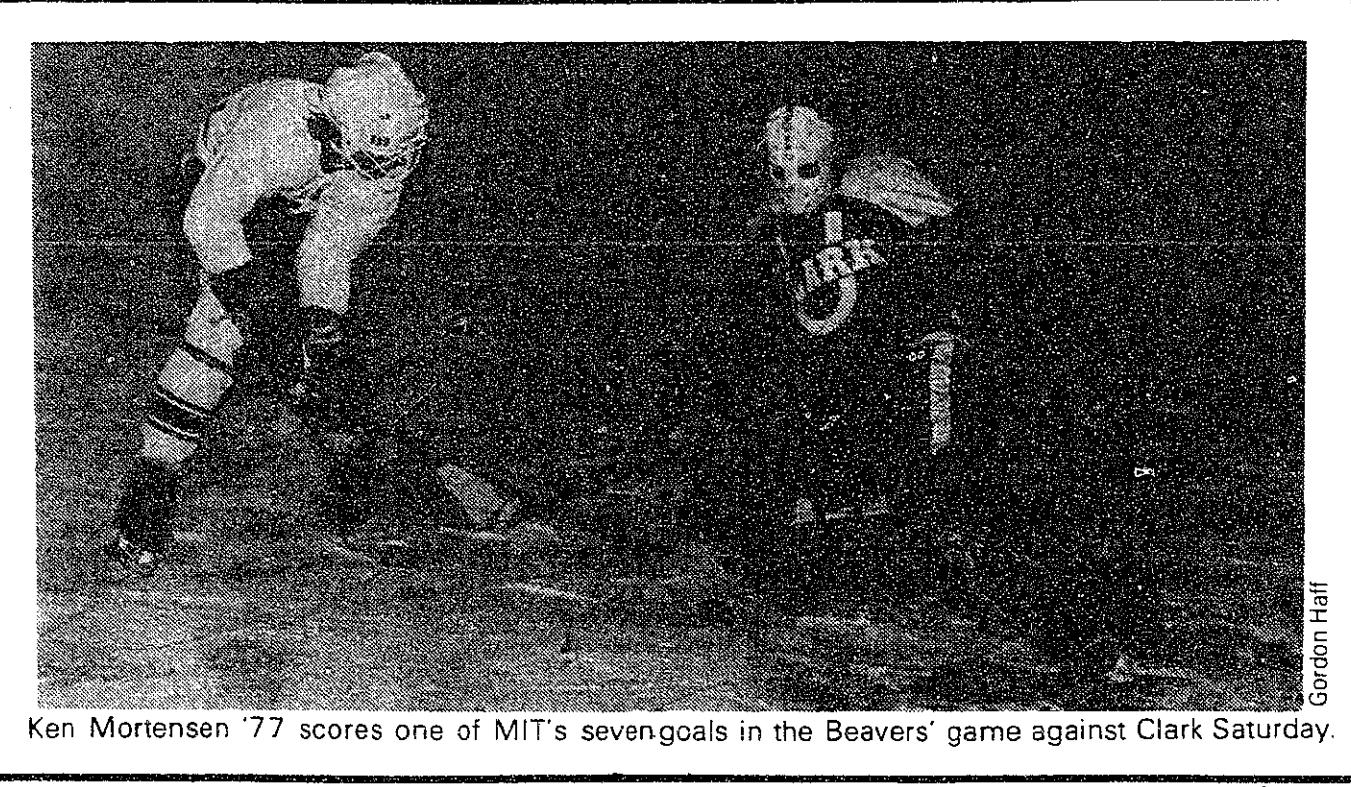
The 15-point victory margin could just as easily have been 35 with the addition of Egan and Richardson. A mile relay team with Egan could have beaten its Williams rival and Richardson could virtually have walked to first place in the two mile over the three Williams runners who were nowhere near his class. Had some other mediocre performances been more solid for MIT, the score would have been embarrassing.

Tomorrow afternoon, the

thinclads host Lowell and Tufts in Rockwell Cage. Field events begin at 1:00 and running events start at 2:30.

### Summary of Events:

35 lb. Weight Throw: 1-Tanner(W); 2-Bunke(M); 3-Sifferlen(M); 51'. Shot Put: 1-Bunke(M); 2-DeSimone(W); 3-Mayhew(M); 47'. Pole Vault: 1-Ingenito(M); 2-Williams(M); 3-Collins(W); 13'6". Long Jump: 1-Temeng(M); 2-McAleenan(W); 3-Turlo(M); 21'8". Triple Jump: 1-Tong(M); 2-Temeng(M); 3-Heil(M); 43'1/2". High Jump: 1-von Borstel(M); 2-Rouse(W); 3-(tie)-Turlo(M) and Tong(M); 6'6 1/2". 60 yd. Hurdles: 1-Okine(M); 2-White(W); 3-Davis(W); 0:07.5. 60 yd. Dash: 1-Okine(M); 2-Bass(W); 3-Temeng(M); 0:06.4. 600 yd. Run: 1-Dunlay(M); 2-O'Reilly(W); 3-Black(M); 1:17.7. 1000 yd. Run: 1-Leinbach(W); 2-Dillon(M); 3-Reeves(M); 2:19.6. One Mile Run: 1-Leinbach(W); 2-Bayus(M); 3-Nasser(M); 4:24.1. Two Mile Run: 1-Kolb(W); 2-Carr(W); 3-Behrman(W); 9:30.5. One Mile Relay: 1-Williams; 2-MIT; 3:34.7. Final Score: MIT 64, Williams 49



Gordon Haft

Ken Mortensen '77 scores one of MIT's seven goals in the Beavers' game against Clark Saturday.